



CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

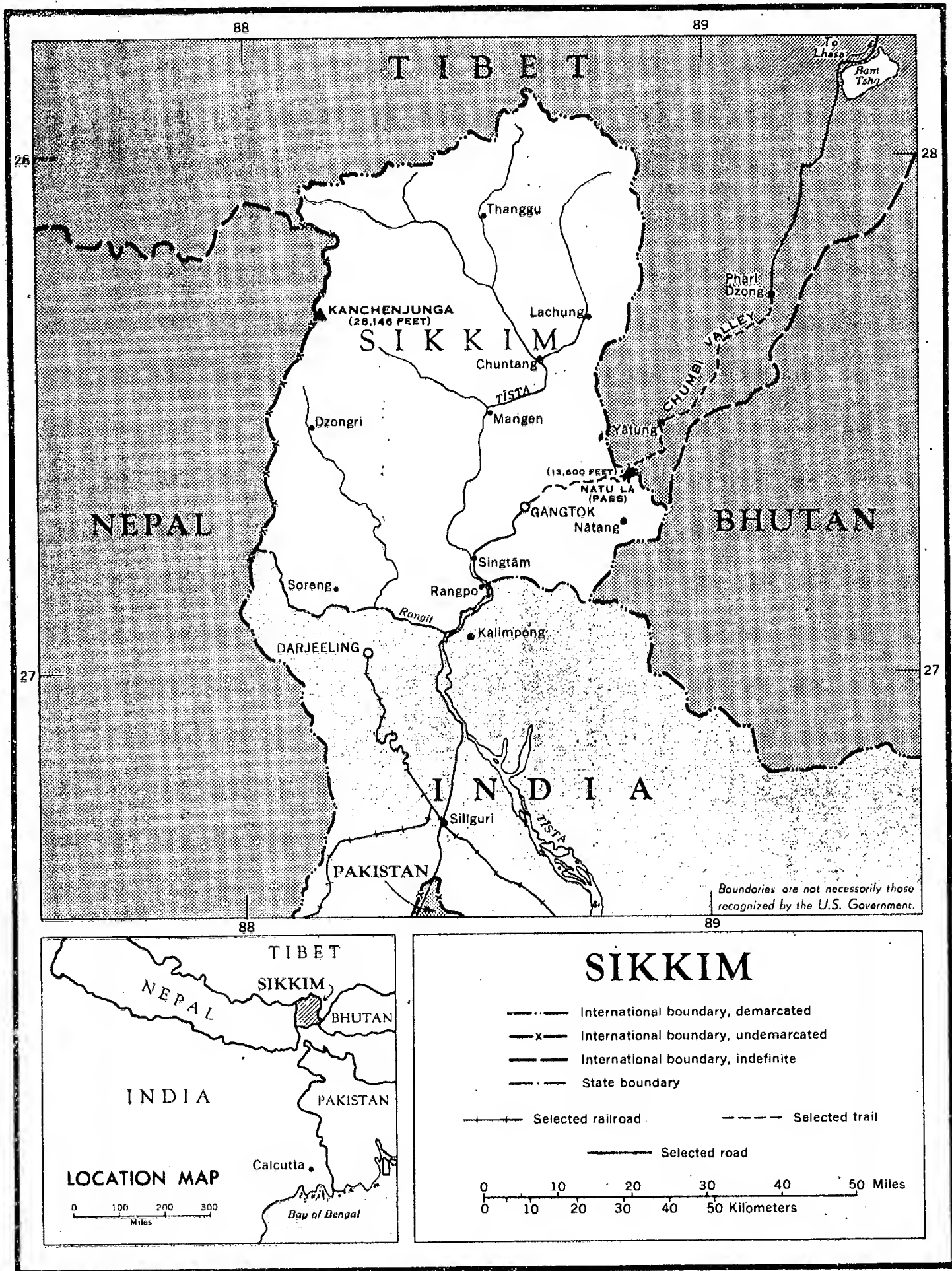
THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF



50X1

17 SEPTEMBER 1965

~~TOP SECRET~~



13824 5-55

DAILY BRIEF
17 SEPTEMBER 1965

1. Communist China

The Indian Government is taking a serious view of yesterday's virtual ultimatum from the Chinese Communists. Foreign Minister Swaran Singh told Ambassador Bowles today that regardless of what India may do or say, he expects the Chinese to take some kind of military action at the end of the 72-hour period on Sunday. He expressed strong doubt that the low-key Indian reply to the Chinese would influence Chinese intentions.

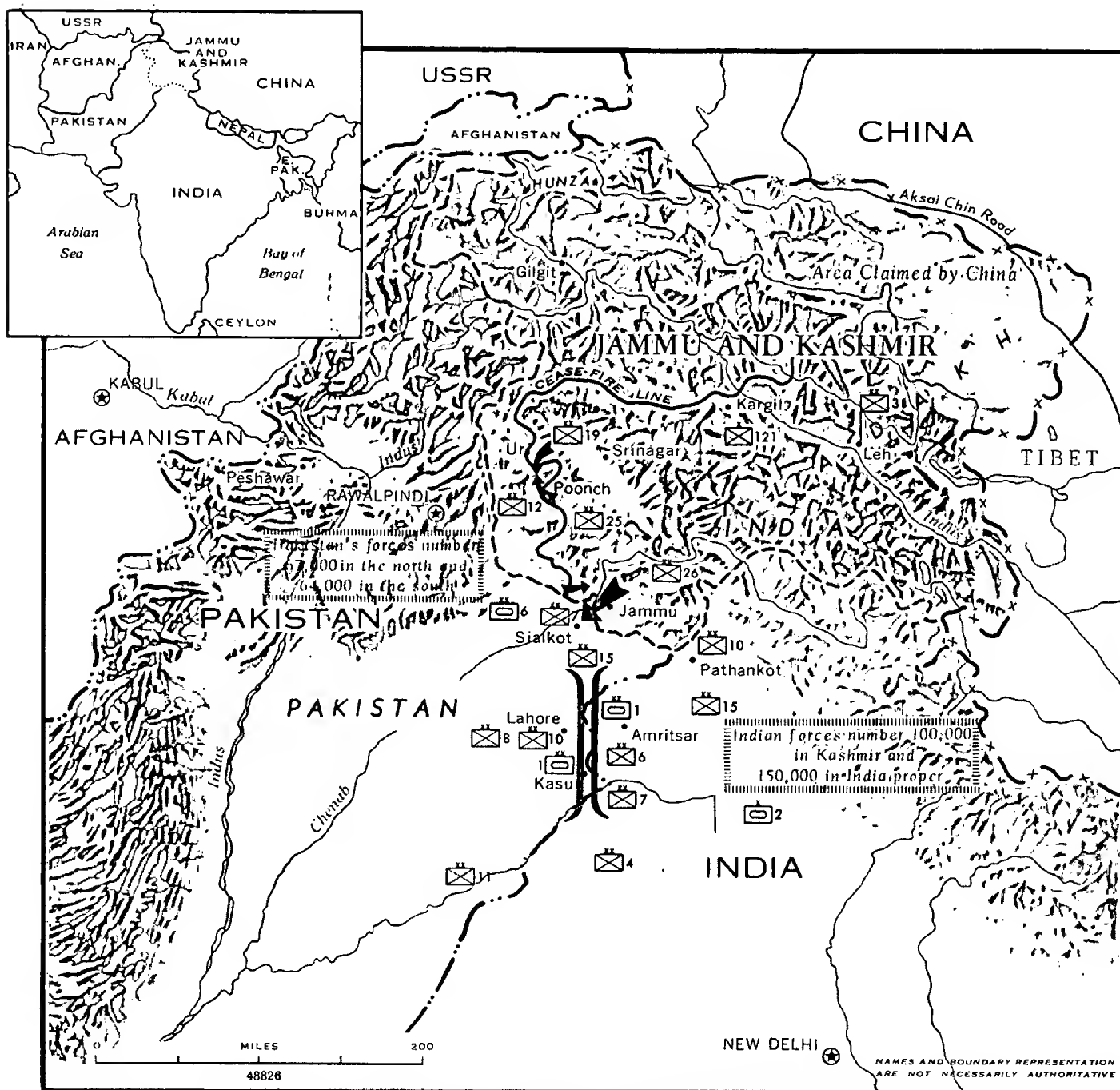
There is still no convincing evidence of Chinese preparations for a major military move against Indian defenses. However, Peking could easily engage in a show of force to divert Indian troops from the fight with Pakistan.

50X1

50X1

Chinese communications activity suggests that Chinese forces in the far western area of Tibet--adjacent to the Ladakh area of Kashmir--are in a high state of alert and raises the possibility of some military activity in this area in the near future.

50X1



INDIA-PAKISTAN Order of Battle

Line of confrontation

Thrust movement

Link-up

50X1

2. India-Pakistan

There is still no significant change in the military situation along the West Pakistan border. Again, the heaviest fighting is in the Sialkot area.

50X1

The Soviets are attempting to make propaganda mileage out of their willingness to continue sending military equipment to India, "without strings" as to its use.

3. North Vietnam

50X1

50X1

4. South Vietnam

Reports that the Viet Cong employed a nausea-producing gas in the I Corps area yesterday are evidently false.

US officials have investigated and now suggest that the fumes came from the large quantity of flares and small arms ammunition used during the action. The South Vietnamese troops involved are unharmed.

5. Indonesia

Pressure is continuing against the US presence. Labor groups in Surabaya are circulating a threat to cut off electricity to our consulate there and to the homes of consular officers unless "firm steps" are taken immediately to close the consulate.

In Djakarta today a group of demonstrators in front of the US Embassy denounced India as a US-British puppet and demanded that the US and Britain "immediately get out" of Southeast Asia.

6. Greece

The vote is likely to be very close when parliament meets some time next week on the government which former Deputy Premier Stephanopoulos is now putting together.

Stephanopoulos, who accepted the King's mandate yesterday, is reportedly banking on his ability to secure two additional defections from the ranks of the Papandreou supporters. Papandreou can be expected to make an all-out bid to defeat the King's latest effort to get a new government.

7. Iraq

The abortive coup in Iraq yesterday was another manifestation of the intense personal rivalries within the ruling military establishment.

50X1

8. Dominican Republic

Provisional president Garcia Godoy has admitted [redacted] that he is following a conciliatory policy toward the rebels until they are disarmed and their zone has been integrated into the rest of the city.

50X1

50X1

His sincerity will soon be tested. Rebel leader Caamano has promised that rebel weapons will be collected by the end of today.

Concern over the concessions Garcia Godoy has made to the rebels has extended to moderate civilian leaders as well as to the military. His appointments of leftists to government posts and the crowing of former rebels who are acting as though they have won the revolution have been particularly galling in these circles.

Garcia Godoy continues to make appointments to sensitive posts--including governors and mayors [redacted]

50X1

50X1

TOP SECRET

TOP SECRET